



TO THE DROITWICH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report for the Year ending 31st December 1943

Mr. CHAIRMAN and GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for the year ending the 31st December, 1943.

This report is prepared as requested by the Ministry of Health in the Circular No. 10, 1944, issued in February 1944.

SECTION "A"

Statistics & Social Conditions of the Area.

AREA. (in acres)	51,453.
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1943) according to	
Rate Books... ..	3753
Rateable Value.	£70,119
Sum represented by One Penny Rate	£287/8/9.

The following are extracts from the vital statistics for the Year:-

Birth Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Population (mid year 1943)	16.5
The Live Birth Rate for the whole of England & Wales was the same.	
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population.	10.63
The Death Rate for the whole of England and Wales.	12.1
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.	23
The Infantile Mortality Rate for England & Wales remained at	49
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)...	13
Deaths from Measles (all ages)...	0.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages).	1.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1.

SECTION "B"

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR
THE AREA

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

There have been no changes in the personnel of the department during the year.

Likewise there have been no changes in the facilities provided in the form of Laboratory, Ambulance or Nursing Services or in the Clinics or Hospitals.

SECTION "C"

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. (a) WATER. Conditions so far as water supplies in the area are concerned have not altered in any material way during the year.

(b) DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE. No extension of sewerage schemes has been carried out during the year.

2. RIVERS & STREAMS. So far as possible the Local Authority in conjunction with the County Council have taken the necessary steps to prevent the pollution of rivers and streams.

3. (a) PUBLIC CLEANSING. This service has continued to operate under the same difficulties as were mentioned in the previous report.

(b) SANITARY INSPECTION of the AREA. The report of the Sanitary Inspector on this work is attached.

(c) CAMPING SITES. These were again kept under observation.

SECTION "D"

HOUSING

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)...	160
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And number of inspections made for the purpose.	182
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(b) Number of dwelling-houses (included above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925 and 1932. ...	77
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And number of inspections made for the purpose.	89
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- | | |
|--|-----|
| (c) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. | 9 |
| (d) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. | 150 |

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.	60
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936. | |
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs (or defects remedied). | NIL |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:- | |
| (a) By Owners | NIL |
| (b) By Local Authorities in default of owners. | NIL |
| (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts. | |
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. | 1. |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:- | |
| (a) By Owners | 1. |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owner. ... | NIL |
| (c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of Housing Act 1936. | |
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. | NIL |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. | NIL |
| (d) Proceedings under Section 12 Housing Act, 1936. | |
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. ... | NIL |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit. ... | NIL |

SECTION "E"

INSPECTION & SUPERVISION
OF FOOD

- (1) Milk Supply. Milk producers' premises have been visited during the year. Samples taken for bacteriological examination were satisfactory.
- (2) Meat and other Foods. No slaughtering has been carried out in the licensed slaughter-houses.
- (3) Adulterations, etc. I am indebted to Mr. E. A. Spencer Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, for the information that 19 samples of milk and one of other foods were taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.
- (4) Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food. This work is carried out by the County Analyst and Bacteriologist at the County Laboratory, Worcester.

SECTION "F"

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The number of children immunised during the year were as follows:-

(a) Pre-School Children.	253
(b) School Children.	229
TOTAL.	<u>482</u>

At the end of the year the percentage of the child population immunised in the groups C- 5 years and 5- 15 years was estimated as 70 and 79.8 in their respective age groups.

The assistance given by the school teachers and district nurses was again invaluable.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

DISEASE	Total cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever.	25	16	-
Erysipelas.	2	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal) Meningitis.	1	1	-
Primary Pneumonia	3	-	-
Whooping Cough	46	-	1
Diphtheria.	5	5	1
Measles.	99	-	-
Typhoid Fever.	1	1	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	2	-	-
TOTALS	184	23	2

TUBERCULOSIS The following table gives particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and Deaths from the disease in the area during the year:-

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
5-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
15-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	1	4	1	1	1	1	-	-
35-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65-& Over.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
TOTALS	9	8	2	2	2	2	1	0

CASES remaining on Register at End of December, 1942.

CASES remaining on Register at End of December, 1943.

Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
M.	F.	M.	F.
14	20	6	1
21	27	7	3

No action was taken in 1943 under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the milk trade) or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936, (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

My thanks are due to the staff for their assistance since taking up my duties and also in the preparation of this report.

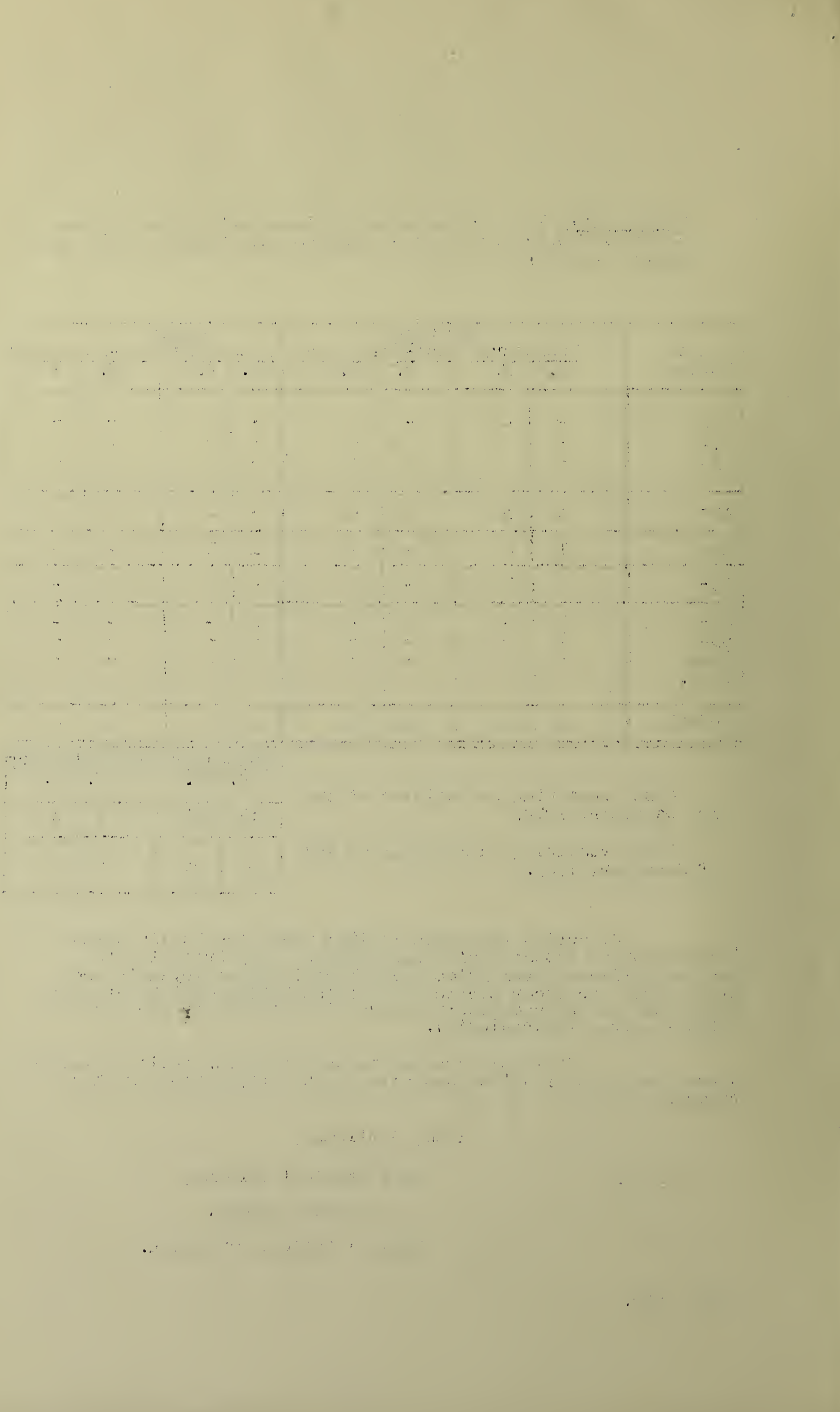
I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. ARNOLD STOBBS.

Medical Officer of Health.

JULY, 1944.



TO THE DROITWICH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report for the Year Ending 31st December 1943

Mr. CHAIRMAN and GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report on the Sanitary Administration of the district for the year 1943.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Water Supply. During the year 16 properties were connected to the Council's main in the Parish of North Claines, making a total 474 properties which are now deriving a piped supply. The remainder of the district with the exception of parts of Dodderhill and Upton Warren Parishes, which are served by the mains of the East Worcestershire Waterworks Company, derive their supply, in the main, from shallow wells.

The maintenance of the North Claines supply devolves upon the Council, and the Water Inspector is fully equipped to enable him to cope with burst pipes, carry out connections and other incidentals that may arise.

A survey of the whole area was made during the year when statistics were compiled chiefly with the idea of ascertaining the various groups of properties of reasonable dimension. This information will prove of value when post-war water supplies are under consideration.

The following summary denotes work carried out in connection with water supplies, viz:-

Number of samples submitted for analysis...	...	40
Number of premises supplied from waterworks.	...	16
Number of Wells cleansed and repaired.	...	10
Number of premises with contaminated supplies dealt with.	...	25

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE & SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The disposal installations throughout the Area received constant supervision. In some of the parishes the drainage systems are entirely inadequate to deal with the demands placed upon them and require complete reconstruction when times are more propitious, especially to meet the demands of new housing needs.

The Fernhill Heath Sewage Works continued to operate efficiently during the year but necessitated a workman being in constant attendance for pumping purposes, etc.

SCAVENGING.

The collection of house refuse is carried out by private lorries on hire to the Council, the Council providing the scavengers. An endeavour is made to obtain tips in close proximity to centres of collection and as far as labour conditions permit, controlled tipping is carried out. The existing system whereby urbanised areas are visited fortnightly and outside areas at intervals of from 2 to 3 months proved reasonably satisfactory.

SALVAGE.

Salvage collections continued during the year and much praise is again due to the members of the Women's Voluntary Service who maintain an unflagging energy in this inconspicuous yet highly essential side of the war effort.

There was an appreciable drop in the paper collection but this was no doubt due to increased economy in the use of paper which did not permit of such surplus as in the previous year.

The following table gives details of various items collected and sold:-

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.	£...	s...	d.
Paper (all classes)	52	11	3	-	338.	15.	1.
Ferrous Metals. ...	75	16	0	-	95.	2.	6.
Non-ferrous Metals.	-	13	3	21	19.	8.	5.
Rags & other Textiles.	6	15	2	-	74.	7.	5.
Rubber. ...	9	4	2	-	17.	7.	8.
Bottles & Jars.	Not sold by weight.				11.	3.	6.
Bones. ...	4	17	-	-	23.	0.	9.
H.T. Batteries. ..	1	11	-	-	1.	18.	9.
	151	9	2	21	£581.	4.	1.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD. MILK AND DARIES.

Number of Registered Retailers of Milk...	...	...	...	79
Number of Registered Milk Producers.	...	...	...	173
Number of Registered Dairy Farms.	...	...	...	173

31 Licences were issued by the County Council during the year for the production of "Accredited" and "Tuberculin Tested" Milks under the Milk (Special Designations) Order.

The following licences were issued by the Council, Viz:-

- 2 Licences to "Pasteurise" Milk.
- 1 Licence to bottle "Accredited" Milk.
- 1 Licence to bottle "Tuberculin Tested" Milk.
- 2 Supplementary licences to sell "Pastuerised" Milk.

During the year a Government White Paper was introduced which proposed, inter alia, the transference of powers relating to milk production from local authorities to the Minister of Agriculture. The Council made a formal protest against this measure, as, in their opinion, the supervision of conditions under which milk is produced is essentially a public health matter and should remain with the public health officials.

It is noted that many cowkeepers are considerably improving the methods of production and many are changing over to the production of designated milks which call for higher standards.

Provisional regulations were issued by the Ministry which provide that where steam sterilisation is not possible the proper application of sodium hypochlorite solution approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries would be permitted.

A total of 158 inspections were made in connection with cowsheds and dairies for the period under review.

142 Milk Samples were taken by the County Council of which 21 failed to pass the prescribed tests.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS

The following is a summary of matters dealt with during the year:-

Number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects...	160
Number of Dwelling-houses found unfit for habitation. ...	9
Number of dwelling-houses found to be not in all respects fit for habitation...	150
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit after informal action. ...	60
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit after formal action... ..	1
Number of Houses demolished by reason of dangerous condition of structure. ...	1
Drains laid or relaid... ..	12
Drains trapped, ventilated or repaired	34
Drains tested.	12
Drainage & sewage disposal systems examined.	131
Insanitary closets, sinks, etc., rectified.	6
Ditches cleaned out... ..	5
Pollution of watercourses remedied..	21
Infested premises dealt with..	2
Infectious diseases visited... ..	28
Overcrowded houses dealt with.	4
Refuse Tips visited... ..	27
Overflowing cesspools dealt with.	5

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

The suspension of slaughtering of animals for sale for human consumption at private slaughterhouses continued during the year, all slaughtering taking place at the Government Slaughterhouse outside the area.

Seven Slaughtermen's licences were issued by the Council under the Slaughter of Animals Act.

Routine visits were made to food preparing establishments during the year when conditions were found to be satisfactory.

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RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

Directions were received by the Council under the infestation Order of 1943 from the Ministry of Food requiring a full report of the extent to which non agricultural land and buildings were infested with rats.

A comprehensive survey was carried out when infestations were grouped under three catagories namely "Reservoir", "Major Primary" and "Minor Secondary" types.

The result of the survey demonstrated that the majority of infestations were of a minor character.

Later directions required the Council to remedy all Rat and Mice infestations in the administrative area, which job had been previously carried out by the County Council under the Rats and Mice Destruction Act of 1919.

To facilitate their work under the Infestation Order the Council applied for and received delegated powers to operate the provisions of the Rats and Mice Destruction Act.

NEW BUILDINGS

Plans for 18 new buildings were deposited and dealt with during the year.

In addition to the above, building operations were commenced on the construction of eight agricultural cottages, being built under the auspices of the Ministry of Health.

HOUSING (Rural Workers) ACT.

One Cottage was reconstructed during the year under the provisions of the Act.

In conclusion I would like to take the opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council, Mr. D. Johnston Green, Dr. J.A. Stobbs, and other officials for their support and confidence.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F.W.I. Whitehouse.

Sanitary Inspector and Building Surveyor.

